

REMARKS

Claims 1 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 5, 12, 13, 15, 16, 39 and 42 are amended and claims 28, 29 and 30-38 are canceled.

It is noted with appreciation that the Office Action objects to claims 3-11, 20, 23-25, 28 and 29 as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The Office Action objects to claim 12. In reply, claim 12 is amended to change “are equivalent” to “match”, and this change is fully supported by the specification.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 12 and 39-42 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,704,293 to Larsson et al. (hereinafter Larsson ‘293). The Office Action rejects claims 13-19, 21, 22, 26 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,535,498 to Larsson et al. (hereinafter Larsson ‘498).

It is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 12 based on Larsson ‘293 be withdrawn for the following reasons. Larsson ‘293 describes a technique of combining broadcast messages for which the source node expects a reply message with broadcast messages for route discovery thereby allowing the broadcast message for which a source node expects a reply message to also be used to support route discovery. Larsson ‘293, column 5, lines 36-44. Figures 6a and 6b of Larsen ‘293 merely disclose determining whether a node has already processed a request for a route message by buffering the requests received from previous broadcast messages and comparing a current request with buffered requests. **However, Larsson ‘293 does not teach determining whether to retransmit a message based on whether the neighbor nodes of the receiving communication unit are also neighbors of another one of the units (which would have already transmitted the message).** Thus, Larsson ‘293 fails to teach the concept of the language in claim 1 that reads “determining, based on the network topology information, whether to retransmit the message based on whether the neighbors of the receiving communication unit are also neighbors of another one of the plurality of communication units.” For these reasons, it is respectfully requested the Larsson ‘293 does not anticipate the subject matter of claims 1, 2 and 12.

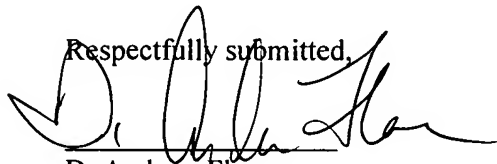
As for claims 39-42, claim 39 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 29 (which was indicated as being allowable). That is, claim 13 recites that a *controlled flood technique is used if the next hop is determined to no longer be a neighbor of the communication unit*. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 39 is allowable for the same reason that claim 29 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 13 is amended to include the subject matter of objected-to claim 29. Therefore, claim 13 is believed to be allowable.

It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and formal notice of such is solicited. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

It is believed that no fees are required at this time. However, Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time that may be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees required for the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-0460.

Respectfully submitted,



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Hand-Delivered:

May 18, 2006
